Contact: Officer Joe H. Rios Date: 11-16-05 Release No. 05-175

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING

On November 16, 2005, San Antonio Independent School District Police Officer Johnny Reyes, a 2 year veteran, was working an on-duty assignment at Irving Middle School. While patrolling the campus, Officer Reyes observed, what he believed, were two male suspects in the school parking lot attempting to burglarize several vehicles. As Officer Reyes approached the suspects, they got into their car and attempted to flee. Officer Reyes ordered the suspects out of the vehicle at gunpoint. According to Officer Reyes, the driver made an overt movement, reaching underneath his seat, and accelerated towards him. Officer Reyes, fearing for his life, fired one shot striking the suspect momentarily stopping his advance. The suspect then accelerated again striking Officer Reyes. Officer Reyes fired several shots as the vehicle knocked him to the ground. The suspects then exited the parking lot and fled East on Delgado.

The suspects were located in the 1000 blk. of Delgado, in the suspect vehicle, just blocks away from the incident. The driver, was pronounced dead at the scene by EMS, as the passenger was taken into custody without incident. Recovered in the vehicle were tools commonly used in vehicle burglaries.

The suspect driver is identified as Eric Zapata-Colin, 18, who was out on bond for 2 counts of Burglary of a Vehicle and 1 count of Graffiti.

The passenger was identified and will be charged with Possession of a Criminal Instrument. His identity will be released after formal charges have been filed.

The San Antonio Police Department's shooting team is handling the investigation and will submit their findings to the Bexar County District Attorney's Office. Officer Reyes' duty status will be determined by the San Antonio Independent School District Police Department.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE